

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 06201 180949Z
ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 INR-07 OES-06 EB-08 SS-15
SP-02 SSO-00 INRE-00 /054 W
-----180956Z 120091 /12
O 180940Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2730

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FOR L - HANSELL, LEITZELL

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EWWT, PORG, IMCO
SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATION INITIATIVE ON OIL POLLUTION

1. SUMMARY: STATE MEMBERS OF IMCO MSC DEL VERY CONCERN-
ED BY REPORTS THAT ADMINISTRATION BEING URGED TO SUPPORT
LEGISLATION ON VESSEL OIL POLLUTION. REQUEST DEPARTMENT
REVIEW SITUATION AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION PROMPTLY.
END SUMMARY.

2. STATE MEMBERS IMCO MSC DEL ADVISED OVER WEEKEND OF
REPORTS THAT SOME USG AGENCIES NOW URGING PRESIDENTIAL
.
SUPPORT FOR CURRENT SENATE COMMERCE COMMITTEE BILL ON
VESSEL-SOURCE OIL POLLUTION LEGISLATION. WE UNDERSTAND
THAT SUBJECT DISCUSSED AMONG AGENCIES IN EXECUTIVE OFFICE
OF THE PRESIDENT ON APRIL 14, AND THAT TENTATIVE DECISION
TAKEN TO PREPARE PAPER TO THE PRESIDENT ON SUBJECT OF
SUPPORT FOR LEGISLATION AS RECENTLY MARKED UP IN SENATE
FOREIGN COMMERCE COMMITTEE. WE ARE TOLD PAPER WILL BE
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VETTED FOR AGENCY COMMENT APRIL 18.

3. WE DO NOT HAVE TEXT OF LEGISLATION INVOLVED, BUT WE
UNDERSTAND THAT IT STILL POSES VARIETY OF LOS AND OTHER
PROBLEMS. MOST IMPORTANT FROM OUR PRESENT POINT OF VIEW,
LEGISLATION REPORTED NOT TO PROVIDE FOR USE OF TECHNICAL
EQUIVALENTS OR OTHER MEANS TO PROVIDE FLEXIBILITY REQUIRED

FOR SUCCESSFUL INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATION.

4. MSC NOT YET UNDERWAY. NEVERTHELESS, OUR INITIAL CONTACTS WITH UK, FRENCH AND OTHERS SUGGEST THAT THERE IS PROMISING POTENTIAL FOR A NEGOTIATION WHICH WILL MEET PRESIDENT'S OBJECTIVES FOR GLOBAL MARINE POLLUTION IF NEGOTIATORS DO NOT HAVE TO PRESENT PRESIDENTIAL PROPOSALS ON A QUOTE TAKE-IT-OR-LEAVE-IT END QUOTE BASIS.

5. DEPARTMENT IN BEST POSITION TO ASSESS THIS SITUATION AND TO DETERMINE APPROPRIATE RESPONSE. NEVERTHELESS, WE BELIEVE THAT ANY ADMINISTRATION SHIFT FROM APPROACH OUTLINED IN PRESIDENT'S MARCH 17 MESSAGE WOULD DRASTICALLY UNDERCUT PROSPECTS FOR A PRODUCTIVE INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATION.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Subject: ADMINISTRATION INITIATIVE ON OIL POLLUTION
TAGS: EWWT, PORG, US, IMCO
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